

rural both deserve and should have adequate and decent day care services.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. Chairman Wesely, there are no other lights on at this time. Would you like to make a closing statement?

**SENATOR WESELY:** Certainly. Mr. Speaker, members, this...I've been kind on the witness stand here being cross-examined by a lot of you and I got to tell you, I appreciate it. I think to not have questions asked, to not have your interests piqued on this issue would be more disappointing than having the excellent questions that you've asked of me. I think clearly there is a lot of interest in this and there are a lot of concerns, I understand that. But I'm willing to work with all of you. Senator Haberman has amended this and to reflect the need for rural representation, particularly in western Nebraska. Senator Coordsen, I would be more than happy to work with you further if there is a way in which we can specifically help those rural areas even more than this bill attempts to, I'd be willing to sit down and work with you. That is very important to me. And I think as Senator Nelson and Senator Smith have indicated, the desire for Title XX is there for equalization, but how are you going to do that on the market system, and I can see some amendments that would be clarifying in how that would be handled that I think would take care of their concerns and meet the intent of what this bill would do, so I'd like to work with Senator Nelson, Senator Smith on that. For others who have asked questions and have concerns, again, I would offer on Select File to further refine the legislation with you. This discussion has been healthy and good and positive. I think what you have hopefully had is your questions answered as best I can and where we need to do some more work, I'm willing to do it, but child care is important. People care about this and this bill is a very important one to helping us establish improved child care and improved assistance to child care providers, recognizing the importance of children in this state. And so with that, again, I appreciate the discussion. It's been worthwhile and I look forward, hopefully, to the advancement of the bill and further work with all of you as you have further questions and desire for refinement of this legislation.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. You've heard the closing and the question before the body is the advancement of LB 678 to E & R Initial. Those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you